

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
CHARLESTON DIVISION

United States Courthouse  
Charleston, South Carolina  
May 2, 2017

TRANSCRIPT OF GUILTY PLEA HEARING PROCEEDINGS

Before the Honorable David C. Norton, United States  
District Judge

### Appearances:

Eric J. Klumb, Esquire  
Assistant United States Attorney  
Charleston, South Carolina 29501

Andrew J. Savage, III, Esquire  
Charleston, South Carolina 29402  
For the Defendant

RAYMOND D. SIMMONS  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SUITE 300 - 401 WEST EVANS STREET  
FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA 29401  
843-610-1896

1 **APPEARANCES (CONT'D):**2  
3 **Shaun C. Kent, Esquire**  
4 **Manning, South Carolina 29102**  
5 **For the Defendant**6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

1 MR. KLUMB: May it please the Court.

2 The government calls the case of United  
3 States of America versus Michael Slager, Criminal Case  
4 Number 2:16-378.

5 The defendant is present and represented by  
6 counsel, Andy Savage and Shaun Kent. The government is  
7 represented by Eric Klumb. And we are here for a change  
8 of plea hearing.

9 THE COURT: Are you all ready to go forward,  
10 Mr. Savage?

11 MR. SAVAGE: Yes, we are, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: Have him come up and be sworn.

13 (Defendant placed under oath.)

14 THE COURT: Mr. Slager, it is my  
15 understanding that you wish to change your previously  
16 entered plea of not guilty to a plea of guilty.

17 Is that correct, sir?

18 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes, sir.

19 THE COURT: Now, before I can accept your  
20 plea, there are a number of questions I am going to ask  
21 you to make sure that it is a valid plea. If you do not  
22 understand my questions and you need to talk to your  
23 lawyer at any time, you let me know. Okay?

24 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes, sir.

25 THE COURT: Now, Mr. Slager, now that you

1 have been sworn, your answers to my questions will be  
2 subject to the penalty of perjury now that you are under  
3 oath.

4 Do you understand that, sir?

5 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes, sir, I do.

6 THE COURT: Mr. Slager, how old are you, sir?

7 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Thirty-five.

8 THE COURT: How far did you go to school?

9 DEFENDANT SLAGER: College degree.

10 THE COURT: Have you taken any drugs or any  
11 medications or consumed any alcoholic beverages in the  
12 last 24 hours?

13 DEFENDANT SLAGER: No, I have not.

14 THE COURT: Have you ever been treated for  
15 mental illness or drug addiction?

16 DEFENDANT SLAGER: No.

17 THE COURT: Do you understand what is  
18 happening here this afternoon?

19 DEFENDANT SLAGER: I do.

20 THE COURT: Can you tell me in your own words  
21 why you are here this afternoon.

22 DEFENDANT SLAGER: To change my plea to  
23 guilty.

24 THE COURT: Mr. Savage, do you or Mr. Kent  
25 have any doubt that Mr. Slager is competent to enter a

1 plea here this afternoon?

2 MR. SAVAGE: Not at all, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: It appears to me that you are  
4 competent to plead to these charges, and I so find for  
5 purposes of the record.

6 Now, have you had plenty of time to discuss  
7 your case with your lawyers?

8 DEFENDANT SLAGER: I have.

9 THE COURT: Are you satisfied with the job  
10 that they have done for you?

11 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes.

12 THE COURT: Have they done everything that  
13 you have asked them to do?

14 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes, sir.

15 THE COURT: Have they failed to do anything  
16 that you have asked them to do?

17 DEFENDANT SLAGER: No.

18 THE COURT: Do you understand that under the  
19 Constitution and the laws of the United States that you  
20 are entitled to a jury trial on these charges if you want  
21 one?

22 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes, sir.

23 THE COURT: Do you also understand that if  
24 you want a jury trial that you have the right to the  
25 assistance of your lawyer for your defense in the charges

1 contained in this case?

2 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes, sir.

3 THE COURT: Do you understand that if you  
4 want a jury trial that at trial you would be presumed to  
5 be innocent and the government would be required to prove  
6 you guilty by competent evidence and beyond a reasonable  
7 doubt before the jury could find you guilty?

8 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes.

9 THE COURT: Do you also understand that if  
10 you wanted a jury trial that you would not have to prove  
11 that you were innocent at your trial?

12 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Correct.

13 THE COURT: Do you understand that in the  
14 course of your jury trial if you want one that the  
15 witnesses for the government would have to come into court  
16 and they would have to testify in your presence and your  
17 lawyers could cross examine the government's witnesses and  
18 object to the government's evidence and offer evidence in  
19 your defense?

20 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes.

21 THE COURT: Do you also understand that if  
22 you wanted a jury trial that you would have the right to  
23 testify at your trial if you wanted to?

24 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes, sir.

25 THE COURT: Do you also understand that you

1 have the constitutional right not to testify if you do not  
2 want to?

3 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes.

4 THE COURT: Do you also understand that if  
5 you chose not to testify at your trial that the jury could  
6 not think that you were guilty based on the fact that you  
7 had exercised your constitutional right not to testify?

8 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes.

9 THE COURT: Do you also understand that if  
10 you want a jury trial that you would have the right to the  
11 issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of  
12 witnesses to testify in your defense?

13 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes.

14 THE COURT: Now, if you plead guilty here  
15 this afternoon and I accept this plea, do you understand  
16 that you will have waived your right to a jury trial and  
17 the other rights that I have just discussed with you and  
18 there is not going to be a jury trial and that I will  
19 sentence you on the basis of this guilty plea after I  
20 consider your presentence report?

21 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes.

22 THE COURT: Do you also understand that if  
23 you plead guilty that you will also waive your right not  
24 to incriminate yourself because I am going to ask you some  
25 questions about what you did in order to satisfy myself

1 that you are guilty and that you will have to acknowledge  
2 your guilt of these charges?

3 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes.

4 THE COURT: Do you also understand that what  
5 you are pleading guilty to is a felony offense and, as  
6 such, you could lose some of your valuable civil rights,  
7 such as the right to vote, the right to have possession of  
8 a firearm or both?

9 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes.

10 THE COURT: There is no restitution in this  
11 case, is there?

12 MR. KLUMB: No, Your Honor.

13 THE COURT: Having discussed your rights with  
14 you, do you still wish to plead guilty, Mr. Slager?

15 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes.

16 THE COURT: Now, have you received a copy of  
17 the indictment -- that is, the written charges that have  
18 been made against you in this case?

19 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes.

20 THE COURT: Have you had plenty of time to go  
21 over the indictment plus whatever discovery information  
22 that the government has shared with your lawyers?

23 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes.

24 THE COURT: Now, your plea agreement says  
25 that you are pleading guilty to Count 1 of the indictment,

1 which charges violation of Title 18, United States Code,  
2 Section 242, which is deprivation of rights under color of  
3 law.

16 Do you understand the charge against you,  
17 sir?

18 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes, I do.

19 THE COURT: Do you understand that the  
20 government would have to prove each element beyond a  
21 reasonable doubt before the jury could find you guilty of  
22 this charge?

23 | DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes.

24 THE COURT: The Court finds that Mr. Slager  
25 fully comprehends and understands the nature of the charge

1 against him and generally what elements the government  
2 would have to prove at trial.

3 Do you understand that the maximum possible  
4 penalty is life in jail, a \$250,000 fine, five years  
5 supervised release and a special assessment of \$100?

6 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes, sir.

7 THE COURT: Now, have you and your lawyers  
8 talked about the sentencing guidelines?

9 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes, we have.

10 THE COURT: Have you talked about how the  
11 sentencing guidelines might be applied in your case?

12 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes.

13 THE COURT: Do you understand that nobody is  
14 going to be able to determine the guidelines in your case  
15 until after your presentence report has been completed and  
16 you and the government have had an opportunity to  
17 challenge the facts reported by the probation officer?

18 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes, sir.

19 THE COURT: Do you also understand that after  
20 your initial guideline range has been determined that the  
21 Court has the authority under some circumstances to depart  
22 from those guidelines and vary from those guidelines and  
23 sentence you above or below those guidelines?

24 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes.

25 THE COURT: Do you also understand that at

1 sentencing the Court will examine the sentencing factors  
2 under Title 18, United States Code, Section 3553 (a) and  
3 that could result in the imposition of a sentence greater  
4 or less than the guideline sentence?

5 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes.

6 THE COURT: Do you understand you or the  
7 government may have the right appeal any sentence you  
8 might get?

9 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes.

10 THE COURT: Do you also understand that in  
11 the federal system that parole has been abolished and you  
12 will not be released on parole?

13 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes, sir.

14 THE COURT: Do you also understand that if  
15 the sentence is more severe than you expected it to be  
16 that you will still be bound by your guilty plea and you  
17 will have no right to withdraw it?

18 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes.

19 THE COURT: Now, also, do you understand if  
20 you plead guilty and I accept your plea that the law  
21 requires you to serve a term of supervised release?

22 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes, sir.

23 THE COURT: And while you are on supervised  
24 release, do you understand that you will be restricted to  
25 the places you go and the things you do and you have to

1 report to authorities on a regular basis?

2 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes, sir.

3 THE COURT: And you will have to serve a term  
4 of supervised release of five years.

5 Do you understand that?

6 DEFENDANT SLAGER: I do.

7 THE COURT: Do you also understand that if  
8 you are on supervised release and you violate a condition  
9 of your supervised release that you can be brought back to  
10 the court and if it is proved by the preponderance of the  
11 evidence that you did violate a condition of supervised  
12 release that you can be sent back to jail to serve the  
13 entire term of supervised release?

14 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes, sir.

15 THE COURT: Has anyone threatened you or has  
16 anyone forced you in any way to plead guilty?

17 DEFENDANT SLAGER: No.

18 THE COURT: How about summarizing the plea  
19 agreement for me, Mr. Klumb.

20 MR. KLUMB: Your Honor, if it please the  
21 Court, I will read more and paraphrase less.

22 THE COURT: Okay.

23 MR. KLUMB: In Paragraph 1 of the plea  
24 agreement, the defendant acknowledges that he's pleading  
25 guilty to a crime of violence. And he also agrees that he

1 will be detained upon the entry of the plea. He admits to  
2 having willfully committed the offense of which he is  
3 pleading guilty.

4                   In Paragraph 4, we have the agreed upon  
5 factual basis for the offense, which I will address  
6 later. The defendant understands and agrees that the  
7 facts satisfy all of the elements of the offense  
8 previously recited by the Court and that the statement of  
9 facts are accurate. The parties reserve the right to  
10 bring additional facts to the attention of the Court for  
11 purposes of sentencing, both in aggravation or mitigation  
12 of the sentence.

13                   Paragraph 5 covers the application of the  
14 sentencing guidelines already covered by the Court. The  
15 defendant also agrees to waive any constitutional  
16 challenges to the validity of the guidelines. The  
17 defendant acknowledges that the burden of proof at the  
18 sentencing stage in the application of the sentencing  
19 guidelines is by preponderance of the evidence. The  
20 rules of evidence don't apply; the Court may consider any  
21 reliable evidence, including hearsay. Nothing in this  
22 section prevents the parties from filing objections to the  
23 presentence report prepared by the United States Probation  
24 Office or from arguing the application of specific  
25 sections of the guidelines. As the Court has already

1 instructed, the parties understand that the Court will  
2 determine the final penalty at sentencing. The parties  
3 agree and understand that the plea agreement binds only  
4 the parties and do not bind the Court.

5 And, finally, the defendant understands that  
6 the government will advocate for the Court to apply the  
7 guidelines for second degree murder and obstruction of  
8 justice and reserves the right to seek a guideline  
9 sentence up to and including the sentence of life  
10 imprisonment. The defendant reserves the right to  
11 advocate for any sentence he deems appropriate and the  
12 right to request a downward departure or a downward  
13 variance.

14 Paragraphs 6 and 7 cover the promises made by  
15 the United States and the state of South Carolina, parties  
16 to this plea agreement. In return for the defendant's  
17 plea of guilty, the United States agrees to dismiss the  
18 remaining counts at sentencing, not to file any additional  
19 charges arising out of the facts forming the basis of the  
20 crimes charged in the indictment and to recommend a three-  
21 level reduction for acceptance of responsibility with the  
22 exception that, if the defendant engages in conduct  
23 inconsistent with accepting responsibility, then the  
24 government is not bound by that promise. The state of  
25 South Carolina agrees to dismiss within five days of

1 acceptance of this guilty plea the charge pending in State  
2 versus Slager subject to reindictment for any reason  
3 caused by the defendant if the agreement is not  
4 fulfilled. The State also agrees not to file any  
5 additional charges against the defendant arising out of  
6 the facts forming the basis of the crime charged in the  
7 indictment. The defendant also agrees that the solicitor  
8 may address the Court at sentencing on behalf of the state  
9 of South Carolina.

10                   In Paragraph 8, the defendant acknowledges  
11 that all of the government and the State's promises in  
12 this agreement are expressly contingent upon him both  
13 abiding by federal and state laws and complying with any  
14 of the terms and provisions of this agreement. In the  
15 event that he violates either, the state of South Carolina  
16 and the United States will have the right at their  
17 election to void any of the their obligations under this  
18 agreement but the defendant will not have the right to  
19 withdraw his plea of guilty to the offense set forth in  
20 Count 1.

21                   In Paragraph 9, the parties acknowledge that  
22 the sentence to be imposed will be determined solely by  
23 the United States district judge and that the United  
24 States cannot make and has not made any promises or  
25 representations as to what sentence the defendant will

1 receive. Any discussions that the parties might have had  
2 about possible sentences are not binding in any way on the  
3 Court and do not constitute representations about what the  
4 parties will seek or what the actual sentence will be.

5 In Paragraph 10, it has already been covered  
6 by the Court in discussions with the defendant. And that  
7 is that he has met with his attorneys on a sufficient  
8 number of occasions and for a sufficient period of time to  
9 discuss his case and receive advice. The defendant  
10 acknowledges that he has been truthful with his attorneys  
11 and has related all information of which he is aware  
12 pertaining to the case. The defendant and counsel have  
13 discussed any possible defenses, including the existence  
14 of any exculpatory or favorable evidence or witnesses.

15 The contents of Paragraph 10 covers the  
16 waiver of rights that the Court has already addressed with  
17 the defendant.

18 In Paragraph 11, the defendant waives his  
19 right to assert postconviction challenges by way of appeal  
20 under Section 2255 with the following exceptions: an  
21 appeal under sentence for claim of ineffective assistance  
22 of counsel, a claim of prosecutorial misconduct or future  
23 changes in the law that affects the defendant's sentence.

24 Paragraph 12 is the Hyde Amendment waiver.

25 Paragraph 13 includes waiver of rights under

1 Rule 410 of the Federal Rules of Evidence; specifically,  
2 for whatever the reason, if the defendant violates the  
3 plea agreement or withdraws his offer to plead guilty, any  
4 statements he has made in conjunction with the filing of  
5 this plea agreement, including the statements contained in  
6 the factual basis of Paragraph 4, may be used against him  
7 in any further criminal proceedings. By signing this  
8 agreement, the defendant acknowledges that the statements  
9 listed above will be admissible against him for any and  
10 all purposes, if for any reason he fails to plead guilty,  
11 the plea of guilty is voided or he withdraws his guilty  
12 plea.

13 Paragraph 14 includes a waiver on the part of  
14 the defendant submitting any requests for information  
15 under the Freedom of Information Act. He also waives any  
16 rights under the Privacy Act to get or obtain records and  
17 materials pertaining to the case.

18 In Paragraph 15, the United States promises  
19 not to use information provided by the defendant about his  
20 own criminal conduct except as authorized by Guideline  
21 Section 1B1.8. The information may be revealed to the  
22 Court, however, but may not be used against the defendant  
23 to determine either his capital guideline range or to  
24 depart from the guideline range. The exceptions to that  
25 type of use of that type of information are as follows:

1 that would be information previously known to the United  
2 States, revealed to the United States by our discovery  
3 through an independent source, a prosecution for perjury  
4 or giving a false statement in the event the defendant  
5 breaches this agreement.

6 Paragraph 16 covers monetary obligations,  
7 including restitution, fines, assessments and  
8 forfeitures.

9 In Paragraph 17, the defendant acknowledges,  
10 as he already has, that if the Court accepts the plea  
11 agreement and imposes a sentence with which he does not  
12 agree that he will not be permitted to withdraw his plea.

13 Paragraph 18 covers the payment of a \$100  
14 mandatory special assessment, due and payable at the time  
15 of sentencing.

16 In Paragraph 19, the defendant acknowledges  
17 that the United States provide to this Court and the  
18 probation office all information it deems relevant to  
19 determine the appropriate sentence in this case. This  
20 includes information regarding his background, character,  
21 conduct, including the entirety of his criminal activity.  
22 The defendant understands that these disclosures are not  
23 limited to the counts of his indictment to which he is  
24 pleading guilty. Further, the United States may respond  
25 to comments he or his attorneys make or the position he or

1 his attorneys take. The United States reserves the right  
2 the make any recommendation it deems appropriate regarding  
3 the disposition of this case subject only to the  
4 limitations in the plea agreement. Similarly, the  
5 defendant also has the right to provide information  
6 concerning the offense and to make recommendations to the  
7 Court and the United States Probation Office as he deems  
8 appropriate.

9                   In Paragraph 20, the defendant understands  
10 that this plea agreement binds only him, the United States  
11 Attorney's office for the District of South Carolina, the  
12 Civil Rights Division of the U. S. Department of Justice  
13 and the state of South Carolina. It does not bind any  
14 other federal, state or local prosecution authority.

15                   Paragraph 21, merger clause, the defendant  
16 again acknowledges that he has had sufficient time to  
17 discuss his case, the evidence and the plea agreement with  
18 his attorneys, that he is fully satisfied with their  
19 advice and representation. He acknowledges that he has  
20 read the plea agreement, understands it and agrees that it  
21 is true and accurate and not as a result of any threats,  
22 duress or coercion. The defendant further understands  
23 that this plea agreement supersedes any and all other  
24 agreements or negotiations between the parties. This plea  
25 agreement defines each and every term of the agreement to

1 the parties. The defendant acknowledges that he is  
2 entering into this plea agreement after pleading guilty  
3 because he is guilty. He further acknowledges that he is  
4 entering a guilty plea freely, voluntarily and knowingly.

5 THE COURT: Mr. Slager, are those the terms  
6 of your plea agreement and do you understand those?

7 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes, sir.

8 THE COURT: Is this your signature on the  
9 eleventh page of the plea agreement?

10 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes, sir.

11 THE COURT: And these are your initials on  
12 the bottom of each page of the plea agreement?

13 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes, sir.

14 THE COURT: Before you signed the plea  
15 agreement, you had a chance to go over each page with your  
16 lawyer?

17 DEFENDANT SLAGER: I did.

18 THE COURT: And before you signed it, did you  
19 understand what you agreed to do and what the government  
20 has agreed to do?

21 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes.

22 THE COURT: Going back to Paragraph 11 on  
23 Page 6, the waiver of appeal and collateral attack, do you  
24 understand that under the law that you have the right,  
25 generally have the right, to appeal from the sentence that

1 you might get and before you serve your sentence you have  
2 a right to collateral attack the sentence under habeas  
3 corpus and under Title 18, United States Code, Section  
4 2255?

5 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes, sir.

6 THE COURT: Do you understand that by signing  
7 this plea agreement that you will not be allowed to appeal  
8 your sentence nor will you be allowed to attack the  
9 sentence under Section 2255 with certain exceptions?

10 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes, sir.

11 THE COURT: The exceptions are that you can  
12 for ineffective assistance by your lawyer, prosecutorial  
13 misconduct by the government or changes in the law which  
14 would affect your sentence?

15 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes.

16 MR. KLUMB: This appeal waiver, Your Honor,  
17 covers only his right to appeal the conviction. It does  
18 permit him to appeal the sentence.

19 THE COURT: Other than that.

20 You understand that you can appeal the  
21 sentence but you cannot appeal the conviction; is that  
22 right?

23 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes.

24 THE COURT: Is that your understanding when  
25 you talked to your lawyers about how important these

1 rights are that you are giving up?

2 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes.

3 THE COURT: Has anyone made you any promises  
4 other than what is in the plea agreement to induce you to  
5 plead guilty?

6 DEFENDANT SLAGER: No, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: Has anyone made any prediction or  
8 promise to you as to what your sentence is going to be?

9 DEFENDANT SLAGER: No.

10 THE COURT: I see that you have initiated and  
11 signed Paragraph 4, which is the factual basis for the  
12 guilty plea.

13 Mr. Klumb, I do not know if you want to put  
14 that in the record.

15 Do you agree that this is correct and true,  
16 Paragraph 4?

17 DEFENDANT SLAGER: Yes, sir, I do.

18 THE COURT: Do you want to put it in the  
19 record, Mr. Klumb?

20 MR. KLUMB: Yes, Your Honor. Thank you.

21 On April 4, 2015, Michael Slager was a  
22 commissioned police officer with the North Charleston  
23 Police Department. Slager was on duty as a police officer  
24 when he stopped Walter Scott's vehicle after observing  
25 that the center brake light was not working.

1 During the stop, Scott fled the scene on  
2 foot. Slager engaged in a foot chase of Scott for  
3 approximately 200 yards. During the chase, Slager  
4 deployed the probes of his Taser. His first attempt to  
5 use his Taser was unsuccessful in stopping Scott. Slager  
6 ultimately caught up to Scott and deployed his Taser  
7 probes a second time.

8                           After the second Taser deployed, Scott fell  
9 to the ground. Scott managed to get off the ground and  
10 again run away from Slager. The defendant's Taser dropped  
11 to the ground behind the defendant.

12 As Scott was running away, Slager fired eight  
13 shots at him from his department issued firearm. During  
14 the time that each of the eight shots were fired, Scott  
15 was unarmed and running away from Slager. Five shots hit  
16 Scott, all entering from behind. Scott suffered bodily  
17 injury and died on the scene as a result of the injuries  
18 from the gunshots.

19 The defendant used deadly force even though  
20 it was objectively unreasonable under the circumstances.  
21 The defendant acknowledges that his actions were done  
22 unreasonable under the circumstances. The defendant  
23 acknowledges that his actions were done willfully; that  
24 is, he acted voluntarily and intentionally and with  
25 specific intent to do something that the law forbids.

1 THE COURT: Do you agree with that,  
2 Mr. Slager?

3 DEFENDANT SLAGER: I do, sir.

4 THE COURT: It is the finding of the Court in  
5 the case of United States of America versus Michael Slager  
6 that Mr. Slager is fully competent and capable of entering  
7 an informed plea, that his plea of guilty is a knowing and  
8 voluntary plea supported by an independent basis in fact  
9 containing each of the essential elements of the offense.  
10 His plea is therefore accepted, and he is now adjudged  
11 guilty of that offense.

12 You may go ahead and sign the plea,  
13 Mr. Slager.

14 CLERK: May it please the Court.

21 THE COURT: Is there anything else?

22 Thank you all very much.

23 (Hearing concluded.)

25 | Page

25

**CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER**

I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from my stenographic notes in the above-entitled matter.

/S/ Raymond D. Simmons

March 2, 2018

Raymond D. Simmons, CR  
Official Court Reporter  
United States District Court  
District of South Carolina

11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25